

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-05

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PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 NEA-10 ARA-06 /103 W

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R 071515Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6885

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USUN NEW YORK 260

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BC, KN

SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

REF: A. GABORONE 1021 NOTAL

B. USUN 3201

C. STATE 158345

D. GABORONE 927 NOTAL

1. AS REPORTED REF A, NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR JONG SUNG GYU, RESIDENT IN LUSAKA, VISITED GABORONE JULY 28 TO AUGUST 4 TO PRESENT CREDENTIALS AND MEET WITH GOB OFFICIALS.

2. IN PRESENTING HIS CREDENTIALS, JONG NOTED THAT KOREAN AND BOTSWANA PEOPLES HAD BEEN SUBJECTED TO OPPRESSION AND EXPLOITATION BY IMPERIALISTS AND COLONIALISTS. HE ASSERTED BOTH BOTSWANA AND KOREA ARE WAGING COMMON STRUGGLE TO BUILD NEW SOCIETY UNDER "UPLIFTED BANNER OF ANTI-IMPERIALISM AND INDEPENDENCE
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IN THE SAME RANK OF THE THIRD WORLD". JONG EXPRESSED "FIRM

SOLIDARITY" WITH BOTSWANA IN ITS DEVELOPMENTAL EFFORT AND PUSHED SOCIALIST IDEOLOGY BY CLAIMING NORTH KOREA HAD CONVERTED BACKWARD COUNTRY TO A MODERN SOCIALIST INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY AND HAD FULFILLED ITS SIX"YEAR PLAN ONE YEAR AHEAD OF SCHEDULE. JONG EXPRESSED THANKS TO THE GOB FOR ITS SUPPORT OF THE NORTH KOREAN POSITION AT THE 29TH UNGA. RADIO BOTSWANA ALSO QUOTED AMBASSADOR JONG AS SAYING THAT NORTH KOREAN WOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT FREEDOM FIGHTERS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WHERE POSSIBLE.

3. IN HIS REPLY PRESIDENT KHAMA SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE RELATIONS BETWEEN BOTSWANA AND NORTH KOREA STRENGTHENED FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT AND ASSURED JONG OF SUPPORT IN THE CARRYING OUT OF HIS IMPORTANT DUTIES AS AMBASSADOR TO BOTSWANA.

4. COMMENT: JONG EIGHT-DAY VISIT FOLLOWED CLOSE ON THE HEELS OF RECENT TWO-DAY VISIT BY SPECIAL SOUTH KOREAN ENVOY YONG CHOO KIM REPORTED REF D TO DISCUSS PROPOSED FRIENDLY KOREAN RESOLUTION FOR THE 30TH UNGA. WE UNDERSTAND JONG MADE A PITCH DURING HIS VISIT FOR BOTSWANA SUPPORT FOR NORTH KOREAN APPLICATION FOR NON-ALIGNED STATUS AT THE NAC CONFERENCE IN LIMA. AS IN THE PAST, NORTH KOREANS ARGUED THAT THE PRESENCE OF U.S. FORCES IN SOUTH KOREAN HINDERED PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION.

5. IN CONVERSATIONS HERE WE HAVE CALLED ATTENTION TO FRIENDLY DRAFT RESOLUTION (REF B), STRESSED THAT U.S. TROOPS ARE IN SOUTH KOREA UNDER U.S.-ROK BILATERAL MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY, AND NOTED ADMINISTRATION'S REAFFIRMATION U.S. SECURITY ARRANGEMENT IN NORTHEAST ASIA. WE DOUBT WHETHER BOTSWANA WOULD SUPPORT NORTH OR SOUTH KOREAN APPLICATION FOR NON-ALIGNED STATUS AT LIMA NAC MEETING ON THE GROUNDS THAT BOTH HAVE MILITARY ALLIANCE WITH GREAT POWERS.

BOLEN

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